

Notice of Public Scoping

Grazing Permit Renewals and Land Health Assessments

Comment Period: Open until **October 31, 2005**

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The Uncompahgre Field Office (UFO) is soliciting public comments on the following two topics: First, we would like assistance in prioritizing land areas for the assessment of public land health standards for Colorado. Secondly, we intend to renew 35 grazing permit/leases in 2006. We need to determine the level of public interest, concern, and resource conditions on each of the allotments up for assessment and renewal.

Comment [tf1]: All boxes that have **BOLD** information need to be completed

The assessment of public land health will be done on a **land area** basis. During FY 2006 the UFO will be completing land health assessment(s) in the following:
North Fork Landscape Unit.

Comment [tf2]: Select which type of Land designation your FO is using.

Comment [tf3]: Put in FO name, i.e LSFO

Once the FO receives the public comments, the staff will meet as an interdisciplinary team. Using the public comments and all other available information provided, the FO Inter-Disciplinary Team will establish the priority list of the land areas that will be assessed for compliance with the health standards during the 2006 field season.

Following are the **land areas** and acreage identified in the FO for which we are soliciting input regarding when the assessment will be initiated.

Comment [tf4]: Select which type of Land designation your FO is using

Name	Federal Acreage
North Fork Landscape Unit	54,941
Upper Paradox Landscape Unit	35,660
Colona Landscape Unit	48,192

The FO will also be completing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

analysis and making decisions on the renewal of certain grazing permits/leases. Since the level of NEPA analysis is in part driven by the level of public interest and concern, your comments are requested relative to conditions you have observed on these allotments and/or specific environmental concerns about the lands and/or resources found within the specific allotment. The more specific and factual your information is, the more helpful and useful it will be.

An interdisciplinary team will rank the expiring permits into high and low priority categories based on public comments and all other information available. The ranking will help determine the amount of consideration necessary and the appropriate level of NEPA documentation for reaching a decision on each grazing permit renewal. The ranking will also help to allocate resources to address concerns on a priority basis.

The following BLM grazing permits/leases are scheduled for renewal in FY2006 on the following BLM grazing allotments in the UFO:

Allotment Name & Number	Federal Acres	Permittee/Lessee	Land Area
Willbanks #14502	2,990	Harry B. Vaughan	North Fork
Wilbanks #14502		James D. Vela	North Fork
Wilbanks #14502 Dry Creek #14549 South Dry Creek #14548	2,990 1,985 1,125	Gordon and Cheryl Hebenstreit	North Fork
Wilbanks #14502 Dry Creek #14549 South Dry Creek #14548		Roy & Geraldine Wolf	North Fork
Roatcap-Jay Creek #14507 Dedication Site #05002	9,955 240	James Patterson III	North Fork
Juniper Knob #14505 Fire Mountain Canal #14508	615 120	Thomas M. Alvey	North Fork
Oak Mesa #14506	735	David & Anne Sievers	North Fork
Leroux Creek #14504 Leroux #14550	540 2,000	7X Ranch, LLC	North Fork
West Roatcap #14510	320	Karla Tschoepe	North Fork
Overland #14511	160	Marvin H. & Billie J.	North Fork

East Roatcap #14512	211	White	
West Stevens Gulch #14515	1,255	N.W. Grosse-Rhode	North Fork
Stevens Gulch Common #14513	2,260	David P. Kuntz	North Fork
Stevens Gulch Common #14513 Upper Terror Creek #14514	650	Ronald L. Hughes	North Fork
Stingley Gulch #14503	1,078	Dallas Overholt	North Fork
Sunshine Mesa #14541	40	Michael McCarthy	North Fork
Hubbard Creek #14516 McDonald Creek #14532 South Of Town #14534 Aspen Ditch #14551	1,521 3,950 3,471 370	Lawrence P. Allen	North Fork
Coal Gulch #14517 Muddy Creek #14519	7,720 419	Hotchkiss Ranches Inc.	North Fork
Deep Creek #14524 Anthracite Creek #14525 Section 35 #14547	160 1,043 70	L Ranch	North Fork
Milk Creek #14544	123	Mike Laurita	North Fork
Williams Creek #14523	110	The Bear Ranch	North Fork
Stock Driveway #14521	120	Paul A. Schmucker	North Fork
Downing #05541	120	Volk Ranch, LLLP	North Fork
Jumbo Mountain #14527 Oak Ridge Common #14528	5,114 3,595	Edwin S. Allen	North Fork
Oak Ridge Common #14528		Stover Ranches	North Fork
Oak Ridge Common #14528		Dallas Harding	North Fork
Reynolds/McDonald	3,796	Mt. Lamborn	North Fork

#14530		Ranches	
Reynolds/McDonald #14530		Darold & Christine Hawk	North Fork
Reynolds/McDonald #14530		Dolores A. Burns	North Fork
Reynolds/McDonald #14530		Karl J. Burns	North Fork
Reynolds/McDonald #14530		Donald & Betty Little	North Fork
Popp Ranch #14531	222	Norman & Susan Smith	North Fork
Cut Off Allotment #05052	40	Orville F. DeMoulin	North Fork
West Youngs Peak #14536	160	Monty D. Todd	North Fork
Youngs Peak #14537	2,431	Larry D. Todd & Sons	North Fork
Big Gulch-40 #05036	40	Allen Ranches	North Fork

If you have any information or concerns, wish to be considered as an interested party on a permit or allotment, or wish to be involved in a health of the land assessment, please contact the individual at the address above to be put on a mailing list. If you do have not specific comments at this time but have questions about the land areas or allotments listed in this notice, contact the individual at the address above.